

GOVERNOR'S COMMISSION FOR A DRUG FREE INDIANA CRIMINAL JUSTICE INSTITUTE
FEBRUARY 21, 2007
11:30 A.M. TO 2:00 P.M.
CONFERENCE ROOM 17

MINUTES

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Jeff Barber, Ryan McCann, Jim Lyons, A. Wyatt Mullinax, Paula Parker-Sawyers, Bruce Copple, John von Arx
ICJI STAFF: Sonya Cleveland, Michael Cunegin, Mary Murdock, Jason Hutchens, Laura Coykendall, Joshua Ross

John von Arx welcomed those present and asked all to introduce themselves. He then asked Kim Manlove to provide an update as to the activities of the SPIF-SIG.

SPIF-SIG

Kim Manlove reported that they were awaiting approval for the strategic plan from CSAP/SAMSA. He stated that next week, a pre-conference meeting would be held to roll out the SPIF-SIG; with three technical assistance workshops following the first part of March in Clarksville, Southbend, and Indianapolis. He added the SPIF-SIG training committee was preparing to rollout the official SPIF-SIG website which would include meeting minutes, rosters, strategic plan, and RFS (when approved). He went on to say the Local Coordinating Councils and Community Consultants will play a pivotal roll in the SPIF-SIG process. He will be meeting with them next week to review the RFS and answer questions prior to the Consultants sharing information with the community.

John von Arx commented on the great job Kim Manlove had done with SPIF-SIG, noting the concept of connectivity was well entrenched in the process and definitely in synch with this group. Kim Manlove reiterated that the grant is about infrastructure and building relationships, both of which they have tried to incorporate at every opportunity.

Jason Hutchens suggested Eric Wright attend a future Commission meeting to review the SEOW/Epidemiological work group results and provide a state profile. Sonya Cleveland offered to coordinate this.

Meth Free Indiana

Sonya Cleveland reported MFI was focused on completing community kits and distributing them throughout the state. The purpose of the kits is to provide consistent statewide information regarding Meth. Quarterly outcome measures and reporting forms are also being addressed.

Advance Criminal Enforcement (ACE)

Sonya Cleveland explained the members of ACE consist of the Prosecuting Attorneys' Council, United States Attorney's Office, and Federal, State, and Local Law Enforcement agencies. The group focuses on supply reduction and interdiction. The whole group meets during the even months and its sub-committees meet during the odd months. Jason Hutchens conveyed the team is in the process of developing a small twenty county collective of law enforcement agencies (working with Indiana Sheriff's Association, Association of Chiefs of Police, and the Indiana Intelligence Fusion Center) to focus interdiction efforts along part of I-70. Sonya informed those present that the interdiction training January 7th was well attended, and that trainings were also scheduled for April and June. It was also noted that the ISP Hidden Compartment Law proposal had died in committee, without opposition. The State wire tap law proposal was passed out of committee with an 8-0 vote. John von Arx asked that legislative updates be provided at Commission meetings in the future. He also discussed having the Commission continue to be connected to the prevention (SPIF-SIG), law enforcement (ACE), and Treatment components via monthly updates and discussions. Jason Hutchens added that the Meth Data Repository legislation was currently in session. John von Arx asked that Commission members please let ICJI staff know of any legislation they would be particularly interested discussing at these meetings.

Point of Youth

Laura Coykendall discussed the Indiana Point of Youth program and its most recent event, Youth Legislative Day. YLD is an annual event held February 5, 2007 during the legislative session at the Indiana Convention Center/Statehouse. While YLD is an event POY has hosted for many years, this year's event was somewhat different, as POY partnered with the Children's Bureau through their legislative arm, Children Our Best Investment (COBI). The official event name of this year's event was Children Our Best Investment-Youth Legislative Day

POY youth came to Indianapolis the night before the event and reviewed their materials and practiced for the next day. POY youth were responsible for two of the four workshops offered:

- **Debating and Compromising** - where the POY youth debated three different issues (seatbelts in trucks, social host liability, and driver's education) and the workshop participants voted and discussed the outcomes.
- **What do Elections have to do with Advocacy** – POY youth ran an actual campaign for governor, complete with campaign committees, three candidates, debates, and real voting machines for the participants to use when voting. This was a great opportunity for the youth to learn how the electronic voting machines worked.
- The Children's Bureau hosted two workshops as well, **framing your message and Taking it to the Streets**.

Youth were invited to learn about the legislative process, their role in how to change legislation, more about Indiana's pressing youth issues and meet other youth who are

trying to make a difference in Indiana. While it was anticipated that 600 youth and adults attend the event, with the extremely cold weather and Colts victory, approximately 400 attended from across the state.

Applications for the POY 2007-2008 were also distributed to those present. Paula Parker-Sawyers offered to include a link to the applications in the OFBI's Friday Night Facts Newsletter. She also suggested POY examine the Girls State/Boys State model which focuses on average, versus top students.

John von Arx announced that Jim Lyons had recently tendered his resignation to the Commission. Citing a new employment opportunity out of state, as well as an upcoming trip to Taiwan, he would no longer be able to satisfy the requirements of the Commission. John von Arx accepted the resignation, noting the dedication Jim had demonstrated to the Commission as well as his appreciation for Jim's hard work.

Local Coordinating Councils

Sonya Cleveland directed attention to a handout detailing Local Drug Free Communities Fund allocations for each of the 92 counties for 2002-2006. The chart highlighted counties with both increases and decreases in collections, noting overall collections were down. Sonya shared she would like to work with the Indiana Judicial Center to research further why county collections are dropping. Is drug use decreasing? Do courts not understand when to apply the fees? Is there a philosophical issue with enforcement and fee collection? Are there opportunities to improve the fee structure system? It was requested that in the future the chart also include percent change, categories by population, and a per capita breakdown. John von Arx requested a representative from the judicial center be invited to attend the next meeting.

Sonya Cleveland also reported the Safe and Drug Free Fund had a new program officer at the federal level. She had met with him and it was agreed that there was an opportunity to change the fund administration by being more systematic than programmatic. Youth prevention initiatives are not to exceed twenty-five thousand dollars in counties receiving less than seventy-five thousand dollars. Up to thirty LCC's at twenty-five thousand each could be funding. This announcement could be made in the fall.

Next, Sonya Cleveland reported to the group some concerning activities which had taken place with the Prime Time of Morgan County, Inc., a local coordinating council. It had recently come to light that payroll taxes had not been paid for this organization since 1999 and that the most recent coordinator had mishandled funds which, among other issues, resulted in the LCC being a minimum of two thousand dollars in debt. Also shared with Commission members was a timeline detailing activities surrounding these issues, and ending with a request that the LCC had made for a formal legal investigation. The Commission discussed concerns raised in light of these developments. There was much discussion around the issue of compliance monitoring, and the current practice to

monitor County Drug Free funds. John von Arx requested more research be conducted to further explore the Commission and CJI's legal responsibilities with regard to the LCC's.

Sonya Cleveland also shared with Commission members a request for an opinion on statute 5-2-11, because many county commissioners utilize dollars directly from the drug free awards, prior to their distribution. Sonya Cleveland is working with the ICJI general counsel to address this request.

Sonya Cleveland also reported a final draft of the internal governor's Commission for a Drug Free Indiana work plan will be available for review in March. John von Arx added that Commission members would be able to take it under advisement, review, and vote in March.

Randy Miller the executive director of Drug Free Marion County (DFMC) presented to the Commissioners his organization's request to extend the due date of their comprehensive plan. Randy Miller explained that their board meets every other month, and January was their annual meeting. March was the first opportunity they had to compile the members input and suggestions. Wyatt Mulinax asked if receiving this extension would throw them off for next year. Randy Miller responded that it would not, because updates will be much easier with the new format and smaller plan. Wyatt Mulinax made the motion to give DFMC a requested ninety day extension, which would change the plan's due date to March 31, 2007. Consensus was given by those present.

Drug Control Strategy

Colleen Copple reported a delegation of fourteen representatives from Indiana, including six from the coalition and ICJI, conducted a site visit of Iowa's Office of Drug Control Policy the end of January/early February. In Iowa, the group saw first hand the importance of braiding funding and mapping existing programming. It was also noted that in Iowa the Drug Control Policy Office served in an advisory capacity to the Governor's office, and could not review or make recommendations on funding. It was further noted that Florida, Texas, Kentucky, Iowa, and Oklahoma all have Governor's Offices of Substance Abuse modeled after the National Office of Drug Control Policy. In Indiana, establishing an office of Drug Control Policy would serve to further ground connectivity of structures and reinforce the relationship infrastructure between agencies.

The purpose of the Governor's Commission for a Drug Free Indiana is to improve coordination at the local and state level of issues related to alcohol and other drugs. Barbara Seitz-Martinez noted the importance of including tobacco in the category of alcohol and other drugs. An Office of Drug Control Policy could also serve to reduce elimination and duplication of efforts and reinforce themes community and collaboration (not control). Colleen Copple went on to review the charges of the Commission with Commission members, many of which related closely to the objectives and goals of an Office of Drug Control Policy.

It was suggested that the Commission talk to the Governor's office about organizing a working group of ten to twelve key players, with authority from the Governor's office, to further explore the establishment of an Office of Drug Control Policy in Indiana. This working group could explore preliminary issues such as questions to ask, points to consider, models and practices in other state, examine accountability and performance issues, etc.

Sonya Cleveland reminded Commission members to review the meeting schedule and noted there was not a meeting room for September, because the conference center was booked at this time.

Seeing no further business, the meeting was adjourned.